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JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE

## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(71)Applicant:

CANON INC

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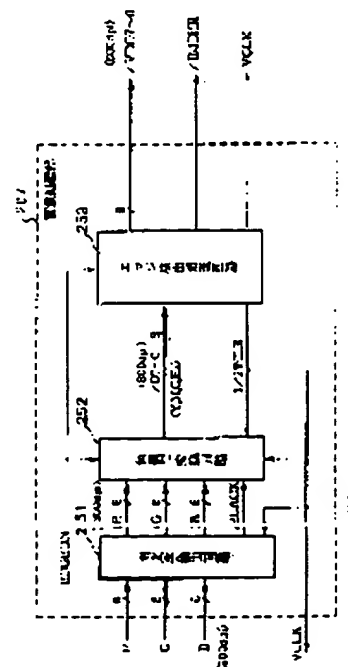
IDE HIROYASU

(54) IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND PRINTER USING IT

(57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To print out a sharp image even in the toner save mode for a color printer.

**SOLUTION:** When a signal EDGEON is set, a color signal conversion circuit 252 selects a color with the highest density and provides an output of the color as a black image. An edge detection section 253 tests 9×9 pixels around a noted pixel and discriminates whether or not an edge consisting of pixels with • a prescribed density and pixels with • prescribed density form a noted pixel. If so, pixels with • a prescribed density are converted into pixels with the highest density and pixels with • a prescribed density are converted into pixels with the lowest density and then the image is formed.



## LEGAL STATUS

(Date of request for examination)